

On this day in 1968, the nation mourned the news that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. had having been shot on his hotel balcony in Memphis, Tennessee. The Civil Rights movement lost its beloved leader that day but even more so, the world lost a person who truly embraced the meaning of freedom, justice, equality, and peace.

Following his death, Dr. King's causes were not abandoned; others picked up where he left off and continued his struggle against discrimination and inequity in society. And we are still seeing these struggles continue today as we witness many nations rising up against oppression and working towards ensuring their voices are heard and that their rights are recognized.

Dr. King, who spent his life promoting nonviolence, lost his life at the hand of another man. Yet even this violent action could not derail the peaceful and revolutionary movement that Dr. King had begun and his legacy continues to live on today. As future struggles for justice and equality take place, it is my sincere hope that Dr. King's lessons of nonviolence are never forgotten.

Today, we pay homage to a great man who was taken from this world far too soon. Let us rededicate ourselves to Dr. King's dream and continue working towards a more just society both here at home and abroad.